Delicencing of Sugar Industry

2648. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA :
SHRI P. UPENDRA :
SHRI G. G. SWELL :
SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE :
SHRIMATI MIRA DAS :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to delicence Sugar Industry;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for delicencing or continuing existing system;

(c) the number of applications for licence pending with Government for clearance; and

(d) whether it is a fact taht licence permits are being used for political and other purposes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Sugar has been kept under licencing for social reasons.

(c) There are 323 applications pending for sugar licences with the Government as on 1-12-1994.

(d) No, Sir.

Investment in Industrial Sector

2649. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA :
SHRIMATI MIRA DAS

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total number of proposals cleared for the investment in the Industrial Sector since the policy of liberalisation was announced;

(b) what is the quantum of investmnnt in terms of rupees that has gone into industrial development since June, 1991; and

(c) the break-up of the Indian and foreign investment so far cleared and investment made during this period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) to (c) During the period August, 1991 to October, 1994, 1844 Letters of Intent involving investment of Rs. 43,814.83 crores were granted under the provisions of the IDR Act and 16,100 Industrial Entrepreneurs Memoranda involving an investment of Rs. 32,5580 crores were filed.

During the above said period foreign investment proposals of Rs. 239 billions were cleared.

Sick Industries

2650. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA :
SHRI G. G. SWELL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question No. 376 given in the Rajya Sabha on 8th December, 1994 and state :

(a) the present status of the Goswami Committee Report and how far it has been implemented; and

(b) whether BIFR has been given more power to clear the back-log of sick Industry.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Reforms in Industrial Sector

2651. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of major reforms taken up by Government in industrial sector since June, 1991;

(b) how far these have helped in increasing industrial production during the last three years;

(c) whether Government are satisfied with the performance of industrial sector ;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) what is the manner in which Government propose to increase industrial production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) The new Industrial Policy initiatives have been designed to deregulate the industrial economy in a substantial manner. Major components of the

reforms include abolition of industrial licensing, removal of mandatory convertibility, removal of investment controls on large business houses, reforms in regulations concerning foreign investment and de-reservation of industries for the Public Sector etc.

(b) The overall rates of growth of Index of Industrial Production has been 0.6% in 1991-92, 2.3% in 1992-93 and 3.3% in 1993-94.

(c) and (d) The performance of industrial sector has in general been affected by demand constraints, tight credit policy and short term stabilisation measures in the wake of severe balance of payments crisis in 1991.

(e) Government has gradually removed these constraints. Further steps taken to increase industrial production include rationalisation and simplification of tariff structure reduction in customs and excise duties, extension of MODVAT benefits to the capital goods sector and reduction in minimum lending rates on commercial advances and corporate tax etc. The industrial growth has picked up to 7.9% for April—July, 94 as per the data available from CSO.

Growth rate of industrial production

2652. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the growth rate of industrial production during the Seventh Plan;

(b) the growth rate during 1990-91, 1991-92 and first two years of the Eighth Plan;

(c) whether there has been a decline in ndustrial production during recent years;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken to accelerate the industrial production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) As per the data available from CSO, industrial production recorded an average annual growth rate of 8.5% during the Seventh Plan.

(b) and (c) The growth rate during 1990-91 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 has been 8.3% 0.6%, 2.3% and 3.3% respectively.

(d) The performance of industrial sector was affected by demand constraints, tight credit policy and short term impacts of stabilisation measures in the wake of severe balance of payments crisis during 1991.

(e) The Government have gradually removed these constraints. Further steps taken to increase industrial production include rationalisation and simplification of tariff structure reduction in customs and excise duties, extension of MODVAT benefits to the capital goods sector and minimum lending rates on commercial advances and corporate tax etc.

Revival of sick PSUs

2653. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have finally decided to revive the 58 PSUs which are sick at present;

(b) if so, what are the names of these 58 units;

(c) whether a group of Ministers under the chairmanship of the Finance Minister has been set up for [illegible]; and

(d) what are the sick PSUs located in the State of Madhya Pradesh and what are the steps being taken to revive them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) and (b) As on 14-11-1994, 52 Central Industrial PSEs are registered with Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) as per provisions of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 amended from time to time. The list of PSEs is given in the statement (*See* below).

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Two PSEs namely, NTC (M.P.) Ltd. and HSCO Ujjain Pipe and Foundry Co. Ltd. located in the State of M.P. are registered with BIFR. BIFR have appointed Operating Agencies for sick PSEs to prepare revival schemes.